

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

TOPIC Military Information from Potsdam

EVALUATION see below

PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT 10 to 30 May 1951

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED

26 June 1951

REFERENCES

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ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. On 17 May 1951, a German employed at the Delius Kaserne, Potsdam (N 53/E 63) said that the engineer unit there, which numbered about 200 men, had moved to the summer camp in the Koenigswald. A senior lieutenant and 60 engineer troops were seen crossing the Havel River from Koenigswald by means of two pontoons on 18 May. They subsequently marched to the Delius Kaserne.

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2. Two German women employed in the Hohenlohe Kaserne said on 17 May that only about 200 troops were quartered in the installation, and that 600 to 700 troops from the installation had left for field training, allegedly in the Trebbin area. The 200 troops at the installation had returned from a field exercise at Doeberitz during the night of 16 May. An 85-mm AA gun was seen in the barracks yard. (2)

3. During a prolonged period of observation, source established that motor vehicles were stationed in the Generals' Quarter, Neuer Garten. They could enter the billeting area without stopping at the gate, but the drivers of all other motor vehicles had to produce their papers before entering. (3)

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4. On 21 May, a convoy of 10 trucks was seen en route to Koenigswald, coming from Leipziger Chaussee via Hedditz-Straupitz. Each truck carried 3 lattice-work steel bridge sections and 6 beams.

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5. According to a woman working in the hotel on Heese Strasse, the hotel billeted 350 officers of all branches of service on 21 May. About 220 officers were allegedly on leave in the U.S.S.R.

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6. On 17 May, 5 AA guns were emplaced on An der Sandscholle, 6 AA guns on Stein Strasse, and 5 AA guns on Patrizier Weg.

7. On 21 May, it was determined that the former Heeresunteroffiziersschule in Potsdam-Siche was largely destroyed. Two undamaged buildings of the installation housed German civilians. Three fenced-in low brick barracks were guarded by 10 soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia and seemed to contain ammunition. (5)

8. Two generals and officers of all branches of service, except naval officers, were seen in traffic to the restricted area of Babelsberg on 25 May. The restricted area was guarded by sentries who wore black-bordered crimson epaulets. Motor vehicles seen in traffic

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9. No changes were observed with the AA gun emplacements on Steinstrasse and at the athletic field. At each emplacement, five soldiers received instruction by an NCO.

10. The restricted area on either side of Paul Neumann Strasse was still occupied by about 100 troops with black epaulets on 29 May. Truck

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13. On 19 May, the Delius Kaserne was occupied by about 750 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery, supply, and signal insignia. Sentries wore black-bordered red epaulets. Troops received instruction on four 122-mm artillery pieces on 18 May, and were engaged in maintenance duty on guns and vehicles on 19 May. About 15 officers carrying maps arrived on trucks B at about 10 a.m. on the same day. The trucks were parked in front of the main gate. (6)

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15. Activity of the troops in the Delius Kaserne between 24 and 30 May was described as follows:

Date	Recruits	Trained Personnel	All Troops
24 May	Instruction on 4 x 152-mm and 2 x 122-mm guns from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Cleaning of guns from 1 to 3 p.m.	Maintenance work in the garages and gun sheds	Political indoctrination at 5 p.m.
25 May	Instruction from 9:20 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Physical exercises from 1 to 3 p.m.	Maintenance work in the garages and gun sheds	Political indoctrination at 5 p.m.
26 May	Driving practice with caterpillar tractors from 9:15 a.m. to 12:20 p.m. Cleaning of caterpillar tractors from 1 to 3 p.m.	Guard drill from 9:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Policing of quarters from 1 to 3 p.m.	Motion picture performance at 5 p.m.
28 May	Individual training without arms from 9:20 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Indoctrination from 1 to 3 p.m.	Fatigue duty	Political indoctrination at 5 p.m.
29 May	Individual training without arms from 9:20 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Indoctrination from 1 to 3 p.m.	Maintenance work in the garages and gun sheds	Assembly at 8:30 a.m., followed by report to the colonel, a short address and review with a military band. Political indoctrination at 5 p.m.
30 May	Instruction from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Individual training without arms from 1 to 3 p.m.	Fatigue duty from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Physical exercise from 1 to 3 p.m.	Roll call and review at 8:30 a.m. Political indoctrination at 5 p.m.

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[REDACTED] Comments.

- (1) Since another source also reported that a truck convoy from Koenigswald stopped in front of the Delius Kaserne on 11 May 1951, it is believed that the quarters at Koenigswald will be occupied by elements of the unidentified engineer regiment of the GDFG during the summer months, as they were in 1950.
- (2) The regiments of the 2d Gds AAA Div in the Hohenlohe Kaserne may have been away for firing practice at Wustrow. The troops and materiel loaded on 19 May were probably shipped there too. Nothing is known on a movement of the units to Trebbin.
- (3) [REDACTED]
- (4) The train carried component units of the unidentified engineer regiment of the GDFG which is returning to Potsdam from the training area at Alken on the Elbe River. Elements of the regiment were previously observed by several other sources when they were loaded at Dessau and on their way back to the home station. The source reporting from Dessau saw bridge sections of lattice-work steel girders which were of the same type as those [REDACTED]
- (5) [REDACTED]
- (6) The information by two sources confirms the 30th Gds Gun Arty Bnig as still being located in the Delius Kaserne in mid-May 1951.

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